

Health News Release

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Dental Commission suspends Everett dentist's license for five years

OLYMPIA — The Dental Quality Assurance Commission suspended dentist Russell Clark (DENT.DE.00006917) for five years for overprescribing and diverting controlled substances. This suspension order completes the legal process that started with a summary suspension in May 2011.

Clark prescribed controlled substances to a patient who then shared the medications with him. Clark's credential has been suspended for five years from the date of the order and he may not petition for reinstatement for at least three years from the date of the order.

Legal documents in this case are available online by clicking the link to "Provider Credential Search" on the <u>Department of Health home page</u> (www.doh.wa.gov). Consumers who believe a health care provider acted unprofessionally are encouraged to call Health Systems Quality Assurance, 360-236-4700 to report their complaint.

Health Systems Quality Assurance regulates health care providers in Washington. The Dental Quality Assurance Commission regulates the competency and quality of professional health care providers to protect the public health and safety.

The <u>Department of Health website</u> (www.doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, <u>find us on Facebook</u> and <u>follow us on Twitter</u>.

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